



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

A S S I S T A N C E

Solar Thermal Design Assistance Center  
Part of the Energy  
and Environment Sector  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Albuquerque, New Mexico



The Solar Thermal  
Design Assistance Center  
provides professional technical  
assistance in applying or developing  
solar thermal technologies.

### **Users**

Organizations, agencies, and people who use, develop, or manufacture solar thermal technology come to the Solar Thermal Design Assistance Center for consulting, technical assistance, or educational materials.

### **Consulting**

Advice might include providing information about the status of a given technology, such as trough systems for generating steam, or giving an evaluation of a certain system's potential to perform in a proposed application. The consultation might include help with predicting the performance of certain components in a solar thermal system or giving an estimation of the entire system's performance.

### **Technical assistance**

The Center's staff provides technical assistance with the design and installation of solar thermal systems. In addition, components and whole systems can be tested through the Center at the National Solar Thermal Test Facility at Sandia National Laboratories. The results of the test can be used to help predict the solar thermal system's performance in actual field applications. In addition to the outdoor National Solar Thermal Test Facility, other resources throughout Sandia can be used when necessary to provide the required specialized tests. Some of the testing capabilities include: materials testing laboratories, non-destructive testing, environmental chambers, and instrumentation calibration laboratories, to name a few examples.

solar technologies. The Center writes and distributes information on solar thermal technologies ranging from basic documents used in schools to technical evaluations of components, systems, and applications used in government publications.

Using Sandia's engineering expertise and its two decades of experience with solar technologies, the Solar Thermal Design Assistance Center helps clients throughout the United States select and apply the appropriate solar thermal technology to meet specific needs. The staff and its state-of-the-art facilities for testing and development help the solar industry improve systems and increase their marketability worldwide.

